

REMARKS

Entry of this amendment, and reconsideration of this application, as amended, are respectfully requested.

It is respectfully submitted that the objections to claims 13 and 26 do not apply to the new claims.

Claims 13-14, 16-18, 22, 24, 26 and 27 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by Gautier. Applicants respectfully traverse. In support of the §102(b) rejection, the Examiner states that "Gautier discloses . . . , a stud 18 with a polygonal shape (4 sides) . . ." Applicants traverse, and respectfully submit that Gautier does not disclose the specific shape of the stud; rather, the stud is only shown in the cross-section in the Figures. It is submitted that, based on the cross section, the stud could be round, i.e., there is no disclosure that the stud must be of a shape set forth in the claims. Accordingly, the rejection must be withdrawn.

The obviousness rejection of claims based on Gautier must also be withdrawn based on the foregoing, as a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established.

The configuration of the stud in cross section as N-fold with N= 3, 4, 5 or 6 (n-sided body) or polygonal or oval substantially improves resistance to the rotation of the shell in the plastic cover (see p. 5, lines 8-13). Rotation (turning of the slide shell about its own longitudinal axis) of the glide shell in the plastic mantle is only possible with a great displacement of the plastic, thus, resistance to rotation is substantially improved in comparison to a cylindrical stud.

In view of the foregoing, allowance is respectfully requested.

Any fees due to enter this amendment or to maintain pendency of this application that are not provided herewith may be charged to deposit account no. 50-0624.

Respectfully submitted,

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